

Segment 5 - Wellsville to Avon

General Description

This segment of the BST travels from the southwest foothills of the Wellsville Mountains within Cache Valley to the eastern foothills above Avon, Utah (see maps 9, 10, 11, and 12 in Appendix G). The trail winds its way from Highway 89 and Mount Sterling east, following the 5,100-foot contour, through some of the most diverse back country and agricultural lands in Cache Valley. The terrain can be characterized as rolling hills to steep slopes. This segment intersects with the Little Bear River near Avon. The route ends to the southeast of Avon at the mouth of East Canyon.

Environmental Description

Slope

The slope aspect for this segment of the trail varies considerably but is primarily northern. The terrain is characterized as rolling to steep but has long stretches of flat segments, especially as the trail parallels the Little Bear River.

Hydrology

The Little Bear River will be paralleled by the trail and then crossed at an existing bridge leading into Avon. The proposed route has little contact with any other streams or springs.

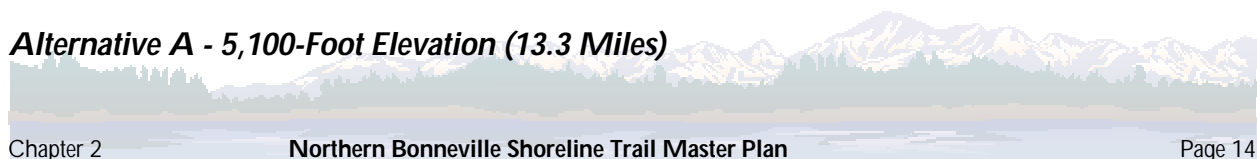
Wildlife

The trail intersects the Little Bear River, which includes wildlife habitat.

Geology

The trail comes in contact with the Western Cache Fault (Wellsville Fault) within the first 2 miles of the trail as it crosses Highway 89. The trail crosses the Eastern Cache Fault (Logan Fault) as the trail intersects the Little Bear River. There are a number of remote land slide areas near the middle of this trail segment.

Alternative A - 5,100-Foot Elevation (13.3 Miles)



This southern route is the major link between the western segment of the NBST to the eastside of Cache Valley. The trail is completely rural and traverses some of the most visually interesting portions of Cache Valley. The trail will cross agricultural lands, rolling hills, forested riparian areas, and a river corridor. Jeep trails will be utilized where necessary. The land the trail crosses is mostly private.

Ownership

The property along this alignment is privately owned agricultural land.

Trail Development Opportunities

- ❖ a link between the west side of Cache Valley to the east side of Cache Valley,
- ❖ the trail provides a visually interesting route through rural Utah, and
- ❖ the trail offers a number of self contained loops beneficial to equestrian and bicycle use.

Trail Development Constraints

- ❖ the trail does not follow any existing pedestrian paths and would need to be constructed from scratch,
- ❖ the trail is relatively remote, and
- ❖ population levels in the surrounding area are low and trail use might not be adequate to justify construction.

Trailheads

Trailheads along this segment would include:

- ❖ the mouth of East Canyon,
- ❖ the public park in Avon, and
- ❖ and a constructed trailhead near Mount Sterling.

Other Trail Alignment Opportunities

Other routes along this segment include following the true 5,100-foot contour elevation completely through to Avon. The corridor along the Little Bear River could be accessed for a longer portion of trail leading up and into the mouth of East Canyon. The jeep trails in this area could also support pedestrian traffic.

Potential Trail Linkages

The links along this portion of the trail include:

- ❖ East Canyon,



- ❖ Avon,
- ❖ the Little Bear River,
- ❖ the Great Western Trail,
- ❖ Liberty,
- ❖ Hyrum Reservoir State Park, and
- ❖ the jeep trail linking Mantua to Avon.

